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M E M O I R S
OF THE
AMERICAN ACADEMY
OF
ARTS AND SCIENCES.

—♦♦♦♦♦—
VOL. II.—PART I.
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MDCCLXXXIII.

A D V E R T I S E M E N T.

TO accommodate the purchaser ; and to invite communications, the Academy has thought it expedient to publish its Memoirs in the present form. In the choice of papers, the Committee, to whom the selection was entrusted, have studied utility, variety, and entertainment. As communications increase, new publications will appear. And it is to be hoped, that a regular series of numbers will call the attention to philosophical inquiries ; and shew, that the Academy does not overlook the end of its institution. The reader will remember, that the Society is not responsible for any communications, which may be selected and published. They must stand or fall by their own merit. The mathematician must answer for his own reasonings, the philosopher for his experiments, and the theorist for his conjectures.

C O N T E N T S.

AN Eulogy on the Hon. JAMES BOWDOIN, Esq. L. L. D. late President of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Who died at Boston, November 6, A. D. 1790. Delivered before the Society, January 26, 1791. By JOHN LOWELL, one of the Counsellors of the Academy.

MATHEMATICAL AND ASTRONOMICAL PAPERS.

- | | Page. |
|---|-------|
| I. <i>Geometrical Methods of finding any required Series of Mean Proportionals between given Extremes. By JAMES WINTHROP, Esq. F. A. A.</i> | 9 |
| II. <i>A Rule for Trisecting Angles geometrically. By JAMES WINTHROP, Esq. F. A. A.</i> | 14 |
| III. <i>Rules for Resolving two Cases in Oblique Spherical Trigonometry. By WILLIAM CROSSWELL, A. M. Teacher of Navigation.</i> | 18 |
| IV. <i>Observations of an Annular Eclipse of the Sun, at Cambridge, April 3d, 1791. By SAMUEL WEBBER, A. M. F. A. A. Hollis Professor of Mathematicks and Philosophy in the University at Cambridge.</i> | 20 |
| V. <i>Observations of the Transit of Mercury over the Sun's Disc, November 5th, 1789. By the Rev. JOSEPH WILLARD, D. D. President of the University, and Vice President of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.</i> | 22 |

P H Y S I C A L P A P E R S.

- | | |
|--|----|
| I. <i>Observations on Prismatic Colours. By Dr. SAMUEL TENNEY, of Exeter, F. A. A.</i> | 37 |
| II. <i>An</i> | |

	Page.
II. <i>An Account of a Number of Medicinal Springs at Saratoga, in the State of New-York.</i> By Dr. SAMUEL TENNY.	43
III. <i>Conjectures of the Natural Causes of the North West Winds being Colder, and more frequent in the Winter in New-England, than in the same Degrees of Latitude in Europe.</i> By SAMUEL HALE, Esq. of Portsmouth, F. A. A.	61
IV. <i>An Account of Frogs found in the Earth ; in a Letter to the Rev. NEHEMIAH WILLIAMS.</i> By Major SAMUEL HITCHCOCK.	63
V. <i>An Estimate of the Heat and Cold of the American Atmosphere beyond the European, in the same Parallel of Latitude : To which are added, some Thoughts on the Causes of this Excess.</i> By EDWARD A. HOLYOKE, M. D. F. A. A.	65
VI. <i>A Table of Results, from a Course of Observations made on the Heat of the Atmosphere by Fahrenheit's Thermometer, in the years 1786, 1787, 1788, 1789, 1790, 1791, and 1792, at Salem in Massachusetts.</i> By EDWARD A. HOLYOKE, M. D. F. A. A.	89
VII. <i>A Letter on the Retreat of Swallows in Winter.</i> From the Rev. Mr. PACKARD.	93
VIII. <i>A Letter on the Retreat of Swallows, and the Torpid State of certain Animals, in Winter.</i> From SEVERYN J. BRUYN, Esq.	96
IX. <i>A Practical Essay on Raising Apple Trees, and Making Cider.</i> By Mr. A. CROCKER, of Somerset, England.	100

C O N T E N T S.

vii

	Page.
X. <i>Meteorological Observations made at Montreal, Canada, North America.</i>	113
XI. <i>Discoveries made in the Western Country. By General PARSONS.</i>	119
XII. <i>Barometrical Observations and Remarks, made during a Tour to Lake Champlain. By JAMES WINTHROP, Esq. F. A. A.</i>	127
XIII. <i>A Table shewing the Probability of the Duration, the Decrement, and the Expectation of Life, in the States of Massachusetts and New-Hampshire. By EDWARD WIGGLESWORTH, D. D. F. A. A.</i>	131
XIV. <i>An Account of a Curious and Singular Appearance of the Aurora Borealis on the 27th of March, 1781. By CALEB GANNETT, Esq. F. A. A.</i>	136
XV. <i>Letter on the Darknefs in Canada, in October 1785. From the Hon. WILLIAM HEATH, Esq. F. A. A.</i>	139
XVI. <i>Observations on Trees, as Conductors of Lightning. By Mr. HUGH MAXWELL.</i>	143
XVII. <i>Experiments in Electricity. By Mr JOHN VINALL.</i>	144
XVIII. <i>Observations on the Effects of Light on Vegetation. By the Hon. JAMES WARREN, Esq. F. A. A.</i>	146
XIX. <i>A Letter concerning Gay Head. From the Rev. SAMUEL WEST, D. D. F. A. A.</i>	147
XX. <i>Description of Gay Head. By the Hon. WILLIAM BAYLIES, Esq. F. A. A.</i>	150
XXI. <i>List of Forest and other Trees, N. W. of the River Ohio. By WINTHROP SARGENT, Esq.</i>	156
XXII. <i>Account of a Skeleton of a Large Animal, found near Hudson's River. By the Rev. ROBERT ANNAN.</i>	160
XXIII. <i>A</i>	

XXIII. <i>A Description of a Horn or Bone, lately found in the River Chemung, or Tyoga, a Western Branch of the Susquehanna, about twelve Miles from Tyoga Point. Communicated by the Hon. TIMOTHY EDWARDS, of Stockbridge, Esq. in a Letter to the Rev. JOSEPH WILLARD, D. D.</i>	Page. 164
XXIV. <i>Observations on the Manufacture of Pot Ash. By AARON DEXTER, M. D. F. A. A.</i>	165
XXV. <i>Second Essay on the Boston Pump Waters. By M. FERON.</i>	170
XXVI. <i>On the Theory of Vegetation. By NOAH WEBSTER, JUN. Esq.</i>	178

M E D I C A L P A P E R S.

I. <i>An Account of an Uncommon Case of Emphysema ; and of an external Abscess whose Contents were discharged by coughing. By EDWARD AUGUSTUS HOLYOKE, M. D. F. A. A.</i>	187
II. <i>Account of a Locked Jaw. By AARON DEXTER, M. D. F. A. A.</i>	191

E R R A T A.

Page 21, line 8, from bottom, for *Annulus*, read *Annular*.—Page 70, bottom line, for *Obseffor*, read *Obseffos*.—Page 87, line 1st, for *heated*, read *treated*.—Page 88, 10th column, against *Mons*, read 13, 7.